

Application No. 09/990,491  
Official Amendment dated April 8, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of January 8, 2004

**REMARKS**

Favorable reconsideration and continued examination of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 4, 6-7, and 11-14 remain in this application. Claims 1, 3, 5, and 8-10 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter thereof.

Entry of this amendment is proper under 35 C.F.R. § 1.116 because the amendment: (1) places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed here; (2) does not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration because the amendments simplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; (3) satisfies a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; (4) does not present any additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of filed or rejected claims; (5) places the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary; and (6) places the application in immediate condition for allowance. The amendment is necessary and was not presented earlier because it is made in response to arguments raised in the Final Rejection mailed January 8, 2004. Entry of the amendment is thus respectfully requested.

Applicants gratefully appreciate the indication in the Office Action that claims 2, 4, 6-7, and 11, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 2 and 11 have both been rewritten in independent form and claims 4, 6, and 7, are dependent from amended claim 2. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, each of claims 2, 4, 6, 7, and 11 is deemed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of these claims are respectfully requested.

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Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 9 has been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter thereof, rendering this rejection moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 5, 9, 12, and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Lenhart (U.S. Patent No. 5,417,525). For the reasons set forth herein, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 5, and 9 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter thereof rendering the rejection of these claims moot.

Claim 12 has been amended to depend from claim 2 that is indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Claim 14 has been amended to incorporate features from amended claim 2, including the feature of "an expanding member is press-fitted within the grinding portion and including a male threaded member" as suggested by the Examiner at lines 1-2 of page 4 of the Office Action. Lenhart fails to disclose or suggest such an expanding member. For the same reasons claim 2 is in condition for allowance, claim 14 should also be allowed.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Lenhart in view of Domanski. Claim 13 is dependent from claim 2. Claim 2 is amended hereby and is allowable for the reasons set forth herein. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 13 is now also in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

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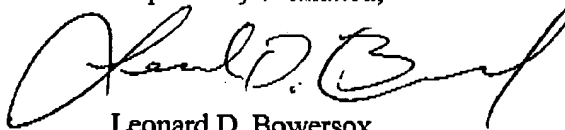
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the present application and withdrawal of all rejections are respectfully requested. Applicant believes this application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests timely notice thereof.

### CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner deem that any further action by applicant or applicant's undersigned representative is desirable and/or necessary, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number set forth below:

Should any fees be necessary in connection with this filing, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0925. Should an extension of time be due, the Commissioner is requested to hereby consider this a Petition and to charge the appropriate extension of time fee to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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